and develops in the coming months. That is all there is to it. Sir, about 'Agni', I have nothing to say. It is going to be launched. According to our information, it is only a postponement.

SHRI VISHWA BANDHU GUPTA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he is aware that in the efforts of Pakistan to continue to get closer to making the bomb—and he says the Indian perception is different from the US perception—enriched uranium has been smuggled even from India to Pakistan through various sources as a part of this effort.

SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO: Sir, I would like to confine my attention to the question. And this has nothing to do with the nuclear aspect. Tomorrow, in the discussion, if these points are raised, I am prepared to answer.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 43.

Study of Visakhapatnam Port by Maritime Research Institute of Netherlands

*43. SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to major ports in the country?

(a) whether the Maritime Research Institute (Marine) of the Netherlands is undertaking a study of Visakhapatnam Port to improve its capability; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and whether similar sutdies would also be undertaken for other major ports in the country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI P. NAMAYAL): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Study of Visakhapatnam Port by maritime Research Institute of Netherlands

(a) and (b) Under the Indo-Dutch Bilateral Programme, the Maritime Research Institute (MARIN) of Netherlands has been entrusted with a study on feasibility of piloting vessels longer than 193.54 metres and having beams wider than 30.48 metres from the inner harbour to the outer harbour in Visakhapatnam Port. This study is specific to the Visakhapatnam port.

SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: Sir, to my question the answer given by the Minister is that under the Indo-Dutch Bilateral Programme, the Maritime Research Institute of Netherlands has been entrusted with a study of feasibility of piloting vessels longer than 193.54 metres and having beams wider than 30.48 metres from the inner harbour to the outer harbour in Visakhapatnam Port. I would like to know from the Minister when this work has been entrusted to this research institute how much time it will take to complete this study and I would also like to know from the Minister whether under this bilateral programme any other programme has also been undertaken between these two countries.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): Mr. Chairman, Sir, in the Visakhapatnam Port the shipyard is close to the port and this is where we have to seek the support of the Dutch. At the moment, we are building ships of round about 42,000 DWT. But our shipyard capacity is also being enhanced and we are likely to build ships up to 70,000 or 80,000 DWT, the biger ships in size. So, we have asked this country to help us to give us their techniques where and what to be done so that larger ships could be handled in that corridor of the channel. So, these details were discussed with them in June 1988 we

discussed it with them again and an agreement was reached and the first trial is likely to be in the month of July and they are supposed to complete study and give it by the end of July and after that whatever measures they suggest to improve the channel or to widen the channel, whatever technical requirement is suggested, then the Government will react on that.

SHRI B. SATYANARAYAN REDDY: My second supplementary is in my question I have asked whether similar studies would also be undertaken for other major ports in the country. The answer was the study was only specific so far as the Visakhapatnam port is concerned. I would like to inform the Minister that in our country there are many major ports like Visakhapatnam port. Our country has a long sea-coast and many major ports are there and similar problems are there also. So in order to meet those problems, what the Government is going to do? Is it going to set up similar research institutes for the study of those ports separately or has it got any other plan to have a complete study of the different ports in the country?

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is a peculiar situation where the shipyard is also near the port and shipyard is building the ships. As I have said, we are constructing, at the moment, small ships of the size of 42,000 DWT and when we are enhancing the capacity of the shipyard so this situation is not applicable to any other ports and the hon. Member is aware that we have the best draught at the Vishakapatnam port where we can handle up to 1.40 lakh DWT. This is a peculiar situation that the port and the shipyard are together and for that the study has been conducted. So, for every port there are similarly problems peculiar in nature to them. But whenever the common problems come normally a common study is ordered for all ports all together. I think that was the intention of the hon. Member to know about it.

SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Marine Research Institute of Netherlands has been entrusted with the study of the feasibility report. I would like to know from the hon. Minister what is the expenditure incurred and whether they will be paid in foreign exchange or in Indian rupees for the preparation of the study report.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: Mr. Chairman, Sir, a lot of projects are going on with Indo-Dutch cooperation and there are a lot of aid packages available to the country and this is involved in one of these discussions. Nothing particular has been discusssed with them that we will pay so much in such and such a currency A lot of projects were taken up with Indo-Dutch cooperation and in one of those cooperation packages, this is one of the projects.

SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Mr. Chairman, Sir, in spite of India' a glorious past in shipping and massive expenditure on shipping and research in recent decades, why is it that India has to depend on a small country like Netherlands to conduct maritime studies and research in India? That is my precise question. Will the Government take immediate steps for upgrading the level of maritime studies and research in India itself?

SHRI RAJESH PILOT: We have a lot of techniques available with us. But this was a very peculiar thing because we wanted to increase the size of the channel to handle bigger ships. In that country, they have specialised in this field. So we have taken it. It is one item in the package that we discussed. It is not a very big project but they will just do it so that we can increase our channel. As I said, it is not a very

big project. When so many projects are going on with them, it is a very small project we have asked for.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.

Setting up of hostels for working women

*44. SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD TRIPATHI:†

DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up some more hostels for working women in the country in the near future; and

(b) if so, what are the names of these places and by when these hostels are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SMT. MARGARET ALVA): (a) Government has a scheme to assist Voluntary Organisations to set up hostels for Working Women during 1989-90 under the Scheme of Financial Assistance for Construction/Expansion of Hostel Buildings for Working Women with Day-care Centres for Children.

(b) The names of the places for new hostels are not finalised by the Government till such time the proposals are receivd from Voluntary Organisations. The Hostels are likely to be completed within two years from the date of release of first instalment of the grant-in-aid.

श्री चन्द्रिका प्रसाद त्रिपाठी : नये स्थानों के चुनाव के लिए आपने क्या प्रक्रिया अपनायी है, खोलने के लिए आधार क्या बनायेंगे ? भले ही आज तय नहीं किया हो आपने मगर भविष्य में खोलने के लिए कुछ उसकी आपने कैटेगरीज बनायी होंगी कि कहां कहां खोलने की संभावनाएं रहेंगी. . (**व्यवधान**) क्राइटेरिया क्या होगा उसका ?

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: Sir, as I said, we consider the proposal when we receive it from voluntary organisations. The minimum number of working women must be 25 for a hostel. We provide 50 per cent of the land cost and 75 per cent of construction cost. We have enforced a ceiling of Rs. 2000 for income of the woman in the women's hostel because they are meant to benefit economically weaker sections of women who cannot afford to go in for other types of housing facilities when they come to cities. We have also imposed a minimum of 3 years' stay in the hostel so that in the meantime they can find other kind of accommodation to look after themselves.

These are the only criteria that we are following, and we have set a target of 60 hostels for the final year of Seventh Plan to be achieved.

डा० रत्नाकर पाण्डेय : माननीया सभापति जी, मंत्री महोदया से मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि जून 1988 में उनकी अध्यक्षता में केन्द्रीय सलाहकार समिति की बैठक हुई थी जिसमें इन होस्टलों के निरीक्षण, सुधार और विकास के लिए कुछ निश्चय किये गये थे, वे निश्चय क्या हैं और क्या इस समिति की बैठक जून 1988 के बाद भी हुई है ? मेरे प्रश्न का दूसरा हिस्सा है कि इस समय देश में श्रमजीवी महिलाओं के लिए होस्टल भवनों की कितनी आवश्यकता है और अभी तक कितने होस्टल्स कार्यरत हैं और उनमें कितनी श्रमजीवी महिलाएं रह रही हैं और क्या यह सच है कि 31 दिसम्बर, 1988 तक कामकाजी महिलाओं के लिए 18 होस्टल स्वीकृत

†The Question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Chandrika Prasad Tripathi.